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STATE OF ARIZONA

## CONSTABLE ETHICS, STANDARDS AND TRAINING BOARD

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## Summary of complaints to the Constable Ethics, Standards and Training Board (CESTB) Fiscal Year 2022 December 31, 2021 Status Report

For the fiscal year period July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, there were a total of fourteen (14) complaints filed with the CESTB against constables for a variety of allegations. One (1) complaint resulted in disciplinary action, twelve (12) complaints were dismissed by the Board and one (1) case is pending.

Complaints may be dismissed for a variety of reasons including but not limited to the following:

- The complaint as submitted does not meet jurisdiction requirements per R13-14-201 of the AZ Administrative Code
  - a. the complaint is about an issue that occurred more than 4 years prior
  - b. the complaint is not against a constable currently in office
  - the complaint does not address any situation related to the performance of a constable's duties
- 2. The complaint has already been addressed by CESTB
- 3. Evidence was insufficient to show a constable failed to comply fully with A.R.S. § 22-131 or R13- 14-103

Complaints that resulted in disciplinary action by being taken by the CESTB were as follows:

**CNA279-2022** was opened on September 21, 2021 against **Maricopa County Constable Carl Seel** by the Maricopa County Presiding Constable. The complaint stated that over 80 orders of protection assigned to Constable Seel were unserved, some over 9 months old. The county established an improvement plan for Constable Seel, and while the constable is working to become compliant, prior to the filing of the complaint, the situation was discussed with Constable Seel on 3 different occasions without improvement. The initiation of this complaint prompted Constable Seel to finally take aggressive action.

The board voted unanimously to issue a warning reminding Constable Seel his inaction was unacceptable, recognizing the Constable is working to improve and emphasizing the constable must continue to improve or face further action.